

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-9, 11, and 12 are pending. Claims 1, 5, and 9 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced. Applicants believe the claims comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-9, 11, and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Imasaki et al. (US 5,983,210).

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 5, and 9 are novel and patentable over Imasaki et al. because, for instance, Imasaki et al. does not teach or suggest displaying information between a communication path ID of the communication path, a disk controller port ID of the disk controller port, a logical volume ID of the logical volume of the storage device, and state of the communication path indicating off-line or on-line; and changing the state of the communication path from on-line to off-line based on receiving failure information from the storage device, the failure information being related to failure of the communication path.

Imasaki et al. discloses a learning section which updates forward operation parameters and performs learning in a neural network. Imasaki et al. discloses to structure a data processing apparatus by combining a plurality of units 2 as exemplified in FIG.1. Imasaki et al. seeks to reduce a reference error. The "error signal" disclosed in Imasaki et al. refers to a difference between the final output signal of the network and a desired output (col. 3, lines 26-27). The error signal does not represent "access failure" occurring at the communication path as presently claimed (see access failure in path 300 as shown in Fig. 13).

Moreover, Imasaki et al. does not relate to failure or error of the communication path, or a storage system. There is no teaching or suggestion of changing the state of a communication path that provides communication between a host port, a disk controller port, and a logical volume, in the event of failure of the communication path, from on-line to off-line.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 1, 5, and 9, and claims 3-4, 7-8, and 11-12 depending therefrom, are novel and patentable over Imasaki et al.

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PATENT

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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